



# NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** Tuesday, November 22, 2004 04-126

**District:** District 2 - Redding

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Antlers Bridge Deck Replacement Complete**

**LAKEHEAD** –The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) announced that all work necessary to fully open the Antlers Bridge (Sacramento River Bridge) near the town of Lakehead on Interstate 5 was completed Monday evening. Contractors will continue working on the finishing touches through the next few weeks. Traffic had been restricted to one lane in each direction of travel.

Construction of the new bridge deck began in April 2004 and was completed ahead of schedule. The schedule was accelerated allowing for completion this construction season as opposed to the original two-season work plan. Both Caltrans and the contractor set a goal to complete the project prior to the Thanksgiving weekend.

“Not only did we complete this project ahead of schedule and on budget, but we were able to open all lanes before the most traveled Holiday weekend of the year,” said Brian Crane, Caltrans District 2 Director.

Steve Rogers, Chief of the Traffic Management Center at Caltrans said, “Annual Daily Traffic (ADT) volumes are historically highest the Sunday after Thanksgiving. If traffic was restricted to one lane we would have seen major delays of more than two hours and over 20 mile backups.”

The Antlers Bridge (Sacramento River Bridge) crosses the Sacramento River arm of Shasta Lake near the town of Lakehead, 25 miles north of Redding. This construction was an interim project to address the wear and tear of the bridge, which was designed and built for two-lane traffic in 1941 and then widened to accommodate four lanes during the construction of Interstate 5. The increase in weight, traffic and number of commercial vehicles has caused undue stress and degraded the entire deck. The deck replacement will preserve the safety and integrity of the existing structure until a new structure is completed in 2011. This bridge deck replacement will also help with worker safety issues due to less needed repairs and less time spent on the bridge conducting maintenance work.

For more information please contact the Public Information Office at 229-0511.

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**[http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news\\_releases.htm](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news_releases.htm)**

